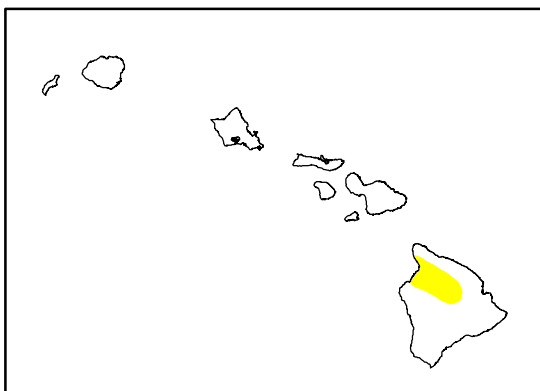
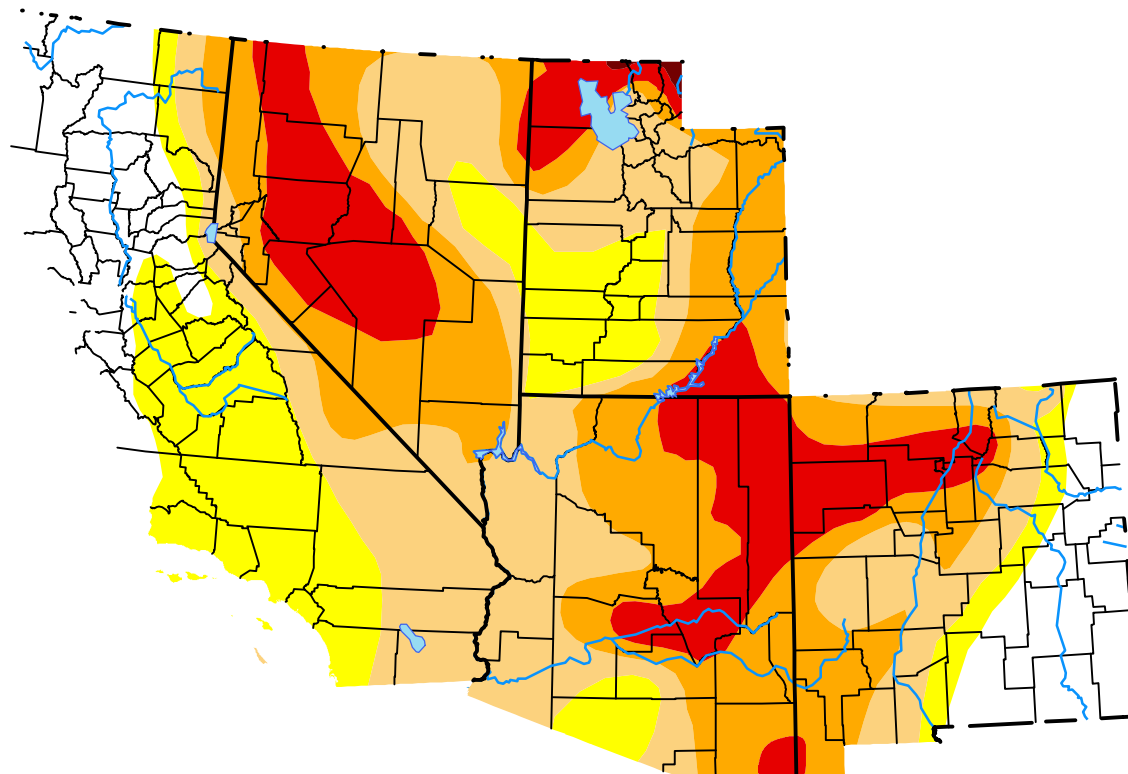


# U.S. Drought Monitor

## USDA Southwest Climate Hub

**December 14, 2004**  
*(Released Thursday, Dec. 16, 2004)*  
 Valid 7 a.m. EST



*Drought Conditions (Percent Area)*

|                                                    | None  | D0-D4 | D1-D4 | D2-D4 | D3-D4 | D4   |
|----------------------------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|------|
| <b>Current</b>                                     | 15.73 | 84.27 | 66.95 | 39.66 | 14.57 | 0.11 |
| <b>Last Week</b><br><i>12-09-2004</i>              | 14.20 | 85.80 | 67.16 | 40.39 | 14.61 | 0.11 |
| <b>3 Months Ago</b><br><i>09-16-2004</i>           | 5.25  | 94.75 | 80.44 | 61.56 | 29.95 | 0.21 |
| <b>Start of Calendar Year</b><br><i>12-31-2003</i> | 18.57 | 81.43 | 74.25 | 65.97 | 39.04 | 7.96 |
| <b>Start of Water Year</b><br><i>09-30-2004</i>    | 5.68  | 94.32 | 80.23 | 61.56 | 27.10 | 0.21 |
| <b>One Year Ago</b><br><i>12-18-2003</i>           | 13.57 | 86.43 | 77.68 | 63.96 | 45.41 | 6.25 |

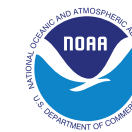
### Intensity:

|                     |                        |
|---------------------|------------------------|
| None                | D2 Severe Drought      |
| D0 Abnormally Dry   | D3 Extreme Drought     |
| D1 Moderate Drought | D4 Exceptional Drought |

*The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements.*

### Author:

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**droughtmonitor.unl.edu**